May 3, 1999

Commissioner Jane Henney, This Days it all, 99 Why 23 29 it

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Mr. & Mrs. Robert Herro 21 80th St. Brooklyn, NY 11209

Unconscientious Resisters

Antibiotics kill bacteria. That's why they save lives...except when they don't work.

Here's at least part of the problem: Antibiotics are routinely fed to cattle, hogs, and poultry to make them grow faster. That major-and unnecessary-use boosts the odds that bacteria will become immune to antibiotics. And if you happen to get an infection caused by one of those resistant bacteria, the antibiotic your doctor prescribes could be useless. That could kill you.

We have filed a petition with the Food and Drug Administration asking that medically useful antibiotics be banned from animal feed. You can help by signing and mailing this coupon or, better yet, by writing or in e-mailing in your own words.

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To: Commissioner Jane E. Henney Parklawn Building, Rm. 14-71 5600 Fishers Lane Rockville, MD 20857 (JHENNEY@oc.fda.gov)

From:

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Herro 21 80th Street Brooklyn, NY 11209-2814

As a member of the Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI), I urge you to save human lives by banning the use of medically useful antibiotics in animal feed. Adding antibiotics to feed in order to promote growth can make bacteria resistant to those antibiotics. And that can leave physicians with no way to treat life-threatening bacterial infections in humans. That's why I support the petition filed by CSPI.

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